

AGENDA ITEM: CLSA Consolidations and Affiliations**GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:** Nothing new to report.

CURRENT STATUS: June 30, 1983 marked the last date on which public libraries affiliating with Systems were eligible for grants under the Affiliations Program.

Although affiliation grants are no longer available, the State Board must still approve the proposed affiliation of independent public libraries with Systems, since funds for several CLSA programs are allocated on the basis of formulas in which the number of System members is a significant factor.

Public library consolidations (Section 18732) and System consolidations remain eligible for reimbursement grants indefinitely. By statute, consolidation establishment grants are paid as follows:

	<u>For each of 2 years</u>	<u>Total Grant</u>
Public library consolidation	\$20,000	\$40,000
System consolidation	\$10,000	\$20,000

PROGRAM TRENDS: No notifications of intent to consolidate or affiliate in the 2002/03 fiscal year were received by the September 1, 2001 filing date.

TRANSITION PROCESS: The Library of California organizational unit that parallels the CLSA cooperative library system is the multitype regional library network. The State Board has similar responsibilities under the Library of California Act as it does under CLSA, in that the Board must approve the consolidation, realignment, and division of regional library networks as well as library applications for membership in the networks. At this time Library of California law does not provide for state grants to libraries and/or systems wishing to consolidate.

The regional library networks eventually will absorb and expand the state-mandated responsibilities and services of the existing cooperative library systems as CLSA transitions to the Library of California. Some cooperative library systems will continue to exist as independent service providers or other types of organizations if they wish to do so, but they will no longer have the California Library Services Act as the authority for their existence.

Staff requests guidance from the Library of California Board in preparing a plan for the transition of this program to the Library of California for Board consideration. As the state-mandated programs administered by the systems are transitioned into the regional library networks, the Board must decide when or if to stop accepting new CLSA system affiliation requests, when to determine that all CLSA funds should have been transferred to the Library of California, and where in this timeline the CLSA cooperative library systems will cease to exist as such (although as noted above there is a possibility that some may

continue to operate as a different organization).

The proposed transition steps for the CLSA Consolidations and Affiliations program, as outlined by the Support Services Committee, are as follows:

1. Begin transition with fiscal year 2001/02 following the establishment of the regional library networks.
2. Accept no more consolidations and affiliations to CLSA systems when at least 90% of all CLSA participating public libraries are members of a regional library network.
3. Once 90% participation is reached, a declaration of transition completion will be prepared by the Board and the Consolidations and Affiliations section of the CLSA shall be repealed.

Step one has been completed. Regional Library Networks are established and services are being provided to members. Step two has been partially completed. Ninety-five percent of CLSA public library members have joined a Library of California regional library network. However, the Committee still needs to consider when or whether to take a request to the full Board on accepting no more CLSA consolidations and affiliations. Staff believes that under CLSA regulations (Sections 20190-20195) the Board may have no choice but to continue to *accept affiliation requests* as long as the CLSA systems exist as legal entities under the authority of the California Library Services Act, but may have some flexibility in approving affiliations, depending on the nature of the request. The Board may also wish to discuss whether development of the Library of California should receive a higher priority than additional affiliations to CLSA systems.

The following public libraries currently are not members of a regional library network:

Golden Gateway Library Network

(Carmel) Harrison Memorial Library
San Juan Bautista City Library
San Leandro Community Library (non-CLSA System member)

Arroyo Seco Library Network

Cerritos Public Library
Irwindale Public Library
Newport Beach Public Library (request for membership consideration at this meeting)
Pomona Public Library
Santa Ana Public Library (non-CLSA System member)
Thousand Oaks Public Library
Vernon Public Library (non-CLSA participant)

Tierra del Sol Regional Library Network

Imperial County Free Library
Imperial Public Library

RELATED ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:

1. When to consider no longer accepting consolidations and affiliations to CLSA systems.
2. The State Board will be notified of all proposed affiliations or consolidations at the Board meeting immediately following the receipt of notices of intent.

Relevant Committee: Support Services
Staff Liaison: Tom Andersen